35.G2089

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Examiner: J. Pokryzwa

SEISHI EJIRI

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: 08/997,706

For:

Filed: December 23, 1997

DATA COMMUNICATION

May 9, 2000 Date:

SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Add claims 21-23:

--21. (New) A data communication system which communicates with an external device via a transmission path, and which also communicates with a data processing terminal, comprising:

a signal path through which the data communication system communicates with the data processing terminal;